

ABSTRACT

~~a        A method of preventing progression of neuropathic~~  
~~a        pain is disclosed. The method includes administering~~  
~~a 5     to a subject an N-type voltage-sensitive calcium~~  
~~a        channel blocking compound which is characterized by its~~  
~~a        ability to (a) inhibit electrically stimulated~~  
~~a        contraction of the guinea pig ileum, and (b) bind~~  
~~a        selectively to omega conopeptide MVIIA binding sites~~  
~~a 10    present in neuronal tissue. Also disclosed are~~  
formulations effective to stabilize omega conotoxin  
peptide preparations at elevated temperatures. Novel  
omega conopeptides also form part of the invention.